

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A master communication device capable of simultaneously communicating with slave communication devices within a first limited number determined in advance, comprising:

a communication judgment unit configured to judge whether or not one of said slave communication devices which has issued a communication request is currently connected;

a communication connection unit configured to connect said slave communication device judged not to be connected by said communication judgment unit;

a connected number judgment unit configured to judge whether or not the number of said slave communication devices connected currently reaches a ~~prescribed~~ second limited number less than said first limited number;

a release selection unit configured to select at least one of said slave communication devices to be released, when determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

a communication release unit configured to release the selected slave communication device.

2. (Currently Amended) The master communication device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a waiting registration unit configured to register ~~in an order~~ said slave communication device which issues said communication request, in the issued order, when the number of currently connected slave communication devices is determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

a communication connection unit configured to select and connect at least one of said slave communication device in the order registered in said waiting registration unit.

3. (Original) The master communication device according to claim 1, wherein said release selection unit selects by priority said slave communication device which has performed the earliest communication among said slave communication devices connected currently.

4. (Original) The master communication device according to claim 1, wherein said release selection unit selects by priority the slave communication device which has been connected for the longest time among said slave communication devices connected currently.

5. (Original) The master communication device according to claim 1, further comprising a connection release unit configured to release connection for said slave communication device, when the connected slave communication device has not performed data transferring during not less than a prescribed period.

6. (Previously Presented) The master communication device according to claim 1, wherein release of connection for said slave communication device is performed by setting said slave communication device to be in an electric power saving mode.

7. (Original) The master communication device according to claim 6, wherein communication for said slave communication device is performed according to a specification of Bluetooth;

said master communication device is a master equipment;

said slave communication device is a slave equipment; and

said electric power saving mode is a park mode.

8. (Original) The master communication device according to claim 1, wherein communication for slave communication device is performed according to a specification of Bluetooth.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A communication control apparatus which controls a slave communication device connected to a master communication device capable of simultaneously communicating with said slave communication device within a first limited number determined in advance, comprising:

a connection report receiving unit configured to receive a connection report from said slave communication device newly connected to said master communication device;

a connection information registration unit configured to register information relating to said slave communication device currently connected to said master communication device;

a connected number judgment unit configured to judge that the number of said slave communication devices connected to said master communication device reaches a ~~prescribed~~ second limited number less than the first limited number, based on information registered in said connection information registration unit;

a communication device selection unit configured to select at least one of said slave communication devices that connection for said master communication device is to be released, when determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

a release instruction unit configured to transmit a release instruction to said slave communication device selected by said communication device selection unit.

12. (Original) The slave communication device according to claim 11, wherein communication between said master communication device and said slave communication device is performed according to a specification of Bluetooth; and

a release of connection between said master communication device and said slave communication device is performed to be set in a park mode.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication system, comprising:
at least one of slave communication devices; and
a master communication device configured to be able to communicate
simultaneously with said slave communication device within a first limited number
determined in advance,

wherein said master communication device includes:

a communication judgment unit configured to judge whether or not one of
said slave communication devices which has issued a communication request is
currently connected;

a communication connection unit configured to connect said slave
communication device determined not to be connected by said communication
judgment unit;

a connected number judgment unit configured to judge whether or not the
number of said slave communication devices connected currently reaches a ~~prescribed~~
second limited number less than said first limited number;

a release selection unit configured to select at least one of said slave
communication devices to be released, when determined to have reached said
~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

a communication release unit configured to release the selected slave
communication device.

14. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 13, wherein said master communication device includes:

a waiting registration unit configured to register said slave communication device which has issued said communication request, in ~~[[an]]~~ the issued order, when the number of currently connected slave communication devices is determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

a communication connection unit configured to select and connect at least one of said slave communication devices in the order registered to said waiting registration unit.

15. (Currently Amended) The communication system according to claim 13, wherein said slave communication device includes:

a master communication device connection judgment unit configured to judge whether or not to be connected to said master communication device, when communication request for said master communication device has been issued;

a release report signal supply unit configured to transmit a release report to said communication control apparatus when connection for said master communication device is released; and

a connection release unit configured to release connection for said master communication device when a release instruction for said master communication device is received from said communication control apparatus, while being connected to said master communication apparatus,

wherein said communication control apparatus includes:

a connection report receiving unit configured to receive a connection report from said slave communication device newly connected to said master communication device;

a connection information registration unit configured to register information relating to said slave communication devices currently connected to said master communication device;

a connected number judgment unit configured to judge whether or not the number of said slave communication device reaches said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number, based on the information registered to said connection information registration unit;

a communication device selection unit configured to select at least one of said slave communication devices of which connection for said master communication device is to be released, when determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

a release instruction unit configured to transmit release instruction to said slave communication device selected by said communication device selection unit.

16. (Original) The slave communication device according to claim 13, wherein communication between said master communication device and said slave communication device is performed according to a specification of Bluetooth; and

a release of connection between said master communication device and said slave communication device is performed by setting in a park mode.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium comprising a computer program code for performing communication between at least one of slave communication devices and a master communication device capable of simultaneously communicating with said slave communication devices within a first limited number determined in advance, the computer program code ~~comprising~~ performing:

judging by said master communication device whether or not one of said slave communication devices which has issued a communication request is connected currently;

connecting said slave communication devices judged that said slave communication device is not connected currently, to said master communication device;

judging by said master communication device whether or not the number of said slave communication devices connected currently reaches a ~~prescribed~~ second limited number less than said first limited number;

selecting by said master communication device at least one of said slave communication devices to be released, when determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

releasing the selected slave communication device by said master communication device.

18. (Currently Amended) The medium according to claim 17, the computer program code further ~~comprising~~ performing:

judging by said master communication device whether or not one of said slave communication devices which has issued communication request is connected currently;

judging by said master communication device whether or not the number of said slave communication devices connected currently reaches said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number ;

registering ~~in an order~~ said slave communication device which has issued the communication request to a waiting registration unit of said master communication device, in the issued order, when the number of currently connected slave communication devices is determined to have reached said prescribed second limited number;

selecting by said master communication device at least one of said slave communication devices to be released, when determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number; and

selecting at least one of said slave communication devices and connecting it to said master communication device, in the order registered to said waiting registration unit.

19. (Currently Amended) The medium according to claim 17, the computer program code further ~~comprising~~ performing:

judging by said slave communication devices whether or not to be connected to said master communication device, when communication request for said master communication device is issued;

transmitting a release report from said slave communication device to said communication control apparatus when connection for said master communication device is released;

releasing connection between said master communication device and said slave communication device when a release instruction for said master communication device is received from said communication control apparatus, during being connected to said master communication device;

receiving by said communication control apparatus a connection report from said slave communication devices newly connected to said master communication device;

registering information relating to said slave communication devices currently connected to said master communication device, to said communication control apparatus;

judging by said communication control apparatus whether or not the number of said slave communication devices connected to said master communication device reaches said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number, based on the registered information;

selecting by said communication control apparatus at least one of said slave communication devices of which connection for master communication device is to be released, when determined to have reached said ~~prescribed~~ second limited number;
and

transmitting a release instruction from said communication control apparatus to the selected slave communication device.

20. (Previously Presented) The medium according to claim 17, wherein communication between said master communication device and said slave communication device is performed according to a specification of Bluetooth; and a release of connection between said master communication device and said slave communication devices is performed by setting in a park mode.